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: September 23, 1999 Group Art Unit: 1644 Filed

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AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.312

This Amendment is being facsimile transmitted pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.312 in connection with the above-identified patent application. A Notice of Allowance was issued on February 10, 2004 making the payment of the issue fee due May 10, 2004. Accordingly, this Amendment is being timely filed.

Please amend the subject application as follows: